

West High to Host Area Debate League Tourney

West High School will host the Southern California Debate League Novice Tournament Friday and Saturday. More than 600 students, representing 15 high schools, are expected to participate.

Students will debate the proposition, "Resolved: That nuclear weapons should be controlled by an international organization." Debating is scheduled for Friday and six individual events are planned for Saturday.

Individual winners will receive gold medals and certificates. Roland Glover, West High speech instructor, is the tournament director. "We anticipate that we will be able to accommodate all entrants on an unlimited basis," Glover said. "Everyone will participate in three rounds."

AWARDS will be presented in the patio of the south classroom building at West High. Dr. Kurt Shery, president of the Torrance Board of Education, will present the awards about 4 p.m. Saturday. Glover said students from Bishop Montgomery High School, North, South, and Torrance High schools would participate. Other schools to be represented are Fremont, Hawthorne, Mira Costa, Morningside, Narbonne, Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills San Pedro, and Serra.

SCHOOL trophies will be presented for first, second, and third places. The three highest scores in the individual competition and the top five scores in debate competition will be used in judging schools.

...Let's Go

By LARRY MACARAY

Finally got around to making air reservations for Acapulco and Mexico City today. I didn't really make them, I only made the request and was placed on the waiting list. Wanted to leave on Dec. 26 and return on Jan. 2... but it seems that many other people have the same idea.

Last year we spent Christmas Eve in Acapulco and New Year's Eve in Mexico City. It's really a joyous and religious celebration that resembles our Christmas celebrations of former years. Much hand decoration and folk-art is evident in the displays and decorations that are built... even in cosmopolitan Mexico City.

I really thought that early November would be early enough to make the reservations. Not so. Now we must wait for a cancellation of some kind on both ways. The return trip has been sold out from Dec. 15 to Jan. 8. Many Americans are finding out that Mexico is absolutely beautiful at the Christmas Season.

A TOURIST CARD is your key to south of the border. There is no charge for one now, and if you're planning to do more than visit the border towns you'll need one. Any travel agency can get you one. If you're under 15 years of age, you're included in your parent's tourist card.

Apart from a tourist card, all a U.S. citizen needs to take along is a vaccination certificate and proof of citizenship. These documents are needed for re-entry into the United States. These rules apply only to tourists. Regulations for travelers planning to do business in Mexico are somewhat more strict. The same goes for students planning to study in Mexico for more than six months.

Tourists are allowed to take in just about anything of a personal nature—with a few exceptions. You're allowed just one camera per person, plus 12 rolls of film—three bottles of spirits—300 cigarettes OR 50 cigars OR three pounds of pipe tobacco. If you plan to go hunting and are taking a gun, be sure to get a firearms permit from your nearest Mexican consulate.

GOING TO MEXICO is really going to a foreign country and in many respects, more foreign than any place in Europe. I like the new perspective of seeing people and learning about their customs... and Mexico

affords that opportunity at a reasonable price.

Because of the cost of transportation, I can't see any reasoning behind going to Europe for 16 or 21 days, unless of course, for an emergency or because spending that amount of money is no strain on the pocketbook. A week or two in Mexico, partly because of the low transportation cost, is very attractive.

No matter how many times I return to Mexico, I always find new experiences. Because of the variety within the country, each visit results in new discoveries. Short distances divide people with different customs and costumes. Architecture ranges from Spanish Colonial cities to picturesque Indian villages to crumbling ruins of ancient civilizations... to a Mexico as modern as any other country in the world.

MESTIZO is the term applied to 90 per cent of the Mexican people. This means that they have at least some Indian blood. Mexico can best be described as an Indian nation.

The Spanish influence is seen in many places. The European influence is also apparent—but the basic Indian culture seems to be underneath it all. In the smaller cities and villages—the pure Indian culture predominates. All in all, it's a fascinating place to go. But be prepared for a change in altitude... a drastic change in customs... and a change in food. Also be prepared for a countryside of beauty... a deeply warm and friendly people and last, but not least, lots of fun and excitement.

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I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the many wonderful people in the 68th District who supported my candidacy. I look forward to continuing to work in behalf of all residents of this great area in the months ahead.

Vincent Thomas

Assemblyman, 68th District

McMahon's



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